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Sonistics to launch new TELSON underwater telephone at DSEI 2013

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Sonistics will be launching its new TELSON portable underwater telephone at Defence Systems Equipment International (DSEI) which is being staged at ExCeL in London UK from 10-13 September. Making its first appearance at DSEI, UK-based Sonistics specialises in global submarine escape, rescue, abandonment and survival.

In 2009, Sonistics were approached by the UK Submarine Parachute Advisory Group (SPAG), which was formed by staff members serving at the Submarine Escape Training Tank (SETT), to help resolve a problem of legacy Under Water Telephones (UWT), which require considerable maintenance and overhaul to maintain operational effectiveness.

Recognising the market need for a new solution, Sonistics has funded its own research and development programme during the last four years to develop TELSON, which is a new wireless communication system for use in emergency underwater situations.

“We recognise the international dimension at DSEI which carries a strong maritime presence that will be a great attraction to the many attending visitors and delegations. This is why we’ve selected DSEI as the ideal platform to launch TELSON which addresses a current need in the market for a high technology UWT to provide wireless communications in the event of an emergency,” said Neil Hopkins, Technical Director of Sonistics.

At DSEI on stand S5-396, Sonistics will be displaying a production model of TELSON as there is currently one unit undergoing sea trials. TELSON is housed in a portable, water-tight container, which is ideally suited for SPAG and other potential customers who will likely be the first emergency service on site when a submarine is in distress. Due to its rugged construction, the system can also be parachuted from an aircraft to aid the search for survivors.

TELSON has been deployed on exercise during 2013 by the NATO Submarine Rescue Service (NSRS) which regularly takes parts in multi-national training with submarines from many nations. The first was in February when the unit was trialled during a rescue exercise in a Norwegian fjord. For this exercise, TELSON was used to maintain communication between a safety Rigid Hulled Inflatable Boat (RHIB) and a Submarine Rescue Vehicle (SRV) during a deep dive down to 650m. The second occasion was during a SRV training exercise in Loch Long in June, when TELSON was used as the primary means of communication between the safety RHIB and the SRV in preference to their usual UWT.

These exercises demonstrate the interoperability of the system between navies and TELSON will again be used during the NATO submarine rescue exercise “Northern Crown 2013” in October. A NSRS SRV will be mobilised from the Swedish Rescue Support vessel, HSwMS Belos, out of Stockholm. The exercise will involve NSRS “rescuing” submariners

from Swedish and Polish submarines on the sea bed and NSRS have offered to carry out further evaluation trials of TELSON.

The company believes the technology would also suit basic ship sonar testing within dockyards. Normally vessels must put to sea to test their sonar but with TELSON, the testing can be completed in the harbour with the unit on the jetty.

NATO Stock No: 5845 15 000 4726

For more information, please visit www.sonistics.com

For further TELSON information, please contact Mr Neil Hopkins on Tel: +44 (0) 1761 300005 or email neil@sonistics.com

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

Watch the video of TELSON on trial with NSRS *here*

Technical information:
TELSON Emergency Underwater Telephone provides wireless communication between surface assets and a distressed submarine, rescue submersibles and divers.

The Dual Transducer is attached to TELSON via a 15m, 45m or 100m umbilical cable enabling deployment from a variety of surface vessels and helicopters.

· Transmit: 8kHz USB – 25kHz LSB/USB – 42kHz LSB/USB
· Receive: Variable 1 kHz to 49 kHz
· Transmission on High Power (100W) or Low Power (10W)
· Internal fast-recharge lithium polymer battery
· External 12V DC power source
· Up to 8 day battery life
· 34 hour audio recording
· NATO STANAG 1074, 1298 and 1382 compliant